



Dr Sumaya

Principal, Thassim Beevi Abdul Kader College for Women
(Autonomous, NAAC 'A' Grade)
Kilakarai, Tamil Nadu, India

+91-9443141934
04567-241934

sumayaa.16@gmail.com

7/132 A, Principal's Quarters,
PMS Campus, Kilakarai – 623 517,
Ramanathapuram District,
Tamil Nadu. India

PROFILE SUMMARY

Dr. Sumaya is a seasoned academic leader with 37+ years of experience in higher education, blending exemplary scholarly achievements with visionary administrative leadership and a passion for social impact. She has served as Principal of Thassim Beevi Abdul Kader (TBAK) College for Women (Autonomous, Tamil Nadu) since 1994, transforming it from a fledgling institution into a thriving autonomous college with 2000+ women students annually. An expert in Food Science and Nutrition, she has authored 39 research publications in reputed journals and secured ~₹5 Crore in funded projects (UGC, DBT, etc.), including four major UGC research projects and innovation grants, leading to 2 patents in food technology. Equally committed to community development, Dr. Sumaya spearheads numerous women empowerment initiatives as head of a prominent NGO, uplifting over 20,000 underprivileged families through education, self-help groups, and disaster relief efforts. Her contributions have earned 27 awards at state and national levels – notably the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's "Best Woman Social Worker" Award (2012) and the NCMEI's National Award of Excellence in Higher Education (2011) – honouring her impact in social service and minority education. She has also represented India internationally, delivering invited talks and forging academic collaborations in Malaysia, Singapore, Kuwait, Myanmar, USA, Thailand, UAE, Saudi Arabia, among others. Dr. Sumaya's career reflects a unique blend of academic excellence, strategic institutional growth, and grassroots social commitment, positioning her as an ideal leader for a Vice Chancellor role in a public university.

LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- **Thassim Beevi Abdul Kader (TBAK) College for Women, Kilakarai – Principal & Head (1994–Present)**

■ Institutional Growth

Oversaw TBAK's expansion into a leading autonomous women's college serving 2,000+ students per year. Pioneered academic strategies that empowered first-generation women graduates and contributed to the economic upliftment of thousands of rural families

■ **Autonomy & Accreditation**

Achieved academic autonomous status in 2005 – making TBAK the first Muslim minority women’s institution under Alagappa University to become autonomous. Steered three successful NAAC accreditations, improving the college’s grade from B+ (2002) to “A” Grade (CGPA 3.16/4.0) in 2019.

■ **Academic Innovation**

Introduced new departments and established 4 research centres (Commerce, Computer Science, Home Science, Chemistry) to promote research culture. Launched industry-relevant programs (e.g. innovative PG program in ERP Systems) and updated curriculum to meet emerging needs, in line with UGC and TANSICHE guidelines.

■ **Resource Mobilization**

Secured significant development funds for the college. Notably, obtained the prestigious DBT Star College Scheme grant (₹1 Crore, 2023) – the only college in the Madurai region with this recognition – to strengthen science education infrastructure. Additionally, facilitated numerous other grants (laboratories, skill centres, community projects), contributing to a cumulative funding of ~₹5 Crore for institutional development.

■ **Outcomes & Placements**

Emphasized quality education and employability – about 50% of graduates placed in reputed companies and 30% pursuing entrepreneurship or self-employment, reflecting the college’s role in women’s empowerment and workforce development.

• **Vice Principal & Head of Department, TBAK College (1988–1994)**

Progressed through leadership roles prior to Principalship. As Vice Principal (1993–94) and Head, Dept. of Home Science (1988–93), contributed to academic administration and department development. Mentored faculty, developed course plans, and laid the groundwork for later expansion of the Nutrition and Dietetics department into a research center. These early leadership experiences established the administrative and academic foundation that enabled TBAK’s later growth under her stewardship.

Additional Roles

Dr. Sumaya also serves as Chairperson of the Institutional Ethics Committee at Ramnad Medical College Hospital and as Professor of Practice (Nutrition & Public Health) at Villa College, Maldives – roles that extend her leadership and academic expertise beyond her home institution.

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

■ Educational Qualifications

Holds a Ph.D. Home Science in Food and Nutrition (Madurai Kamaraj University, 2007), an M.Phil. in Family Life Management (Mother Teresa Women's University, 1991), an M.Sc. in Food & Nutrition (Avinashilingam University, 1986), and a B.Sc. in Home Science (Fatima College, MK University, 1984). She is also a Certified Chief Innovation Officer (Rocheston Accreditation, USA), reflecting her commitment to academic innovation and best practices in higher education management.

■ Research Publications

Authored 39 publications in prestigious national and international journals. Her research spans nutritional science, food safety, and community health – from analysing street food nutrition and safety to exploring the therapeutic value of marine algae. Many works are published in peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings, underpinning her reputation as a scholar-practitioner in Food Science and Nutrition.

■ Patents (Innovation)

Holder of 2 patents awarded by the Indian Intellectual Property Office, demonstrating applied research that benefits society:

- **Nutrient-Rich Seaweed Chocolate Composition** – a novel health-benefit food product (Patent No. 346611, granted 11-Sep-2020).
- **Palm Sugar Processing Machine** – an innovative device to efficiently produce palm sugar (Patent No. 428675, granted 11-Apr-2023).

These patents highlight her focus on food technology innovations that add value to local resources (seaweeds, palm sap) and improve traditional practices for rural entrepreneurs.

■ Research Projects & Grants

Successfully completed 4 UGC-sponsored major research projects as Principal Investigator, on topics including food toxins in coastal diets, nutritional analysis of seaweed, palm sugar production techniques, and street food enterprise trends. She has been adept at winning competitive grants – raising and managing projects from UGC, DST, DBT, and state agencies. Cumulative grants ~₹5 Cr have been secured under her guidance (for research, infrastructure and community programs), signifying exceptional capability in resource mobilization and project execution.

■ Doctoral & Scholar Mentorship

An accredited research supervisor in multiple universities, Dr. Sumaya has guided 7 scholars to their Ph.D. degrees and 12 scholars to M.Phil. completion in her field. She has served as a doctoral committee member and external examiner for Ph.D. viva voce at institutions like Avinashilingam University, Periyar University, and MS University, contributing to the broader research community. Her mentorship has produced new academics and researchers, strengthening the talent pipeline in nutritional science.

■ Curriculum Development

As an academic innovator, she has spearheaded curriculum reforms both at her college and in broader forums. She helped design new syllabi (for example, contributing to the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission's syllabus for Nutrition and Rehabilitation Science) and introduced career-oriented courses (such as Human Rights education and industry-partnered add-on programs). She continuously aligns curriculum with emerging trends, ensuring students receive education that is holistic and future-ready.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SOCIAL IMPACT

■ Director, Seethakathi NGO (Women's Development), Tamil Nadu – since 2002

Dr. Sumaya leads this non-governmental organization focused on empowering underprivileged women through education and entrepreneurship. Under her leadership, the NGO has established 888 women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) comprising 18,850 women across rural coastal communities. She has spearheaded skill development workshops, micro-enterprise training, and income-generating initiatives (such as food processing, artisan crafts, and small-scale trade) to improve livelihoods. Her initiatives have enabled thousands of women to gain financial independence and self-confidence, thus transforming socio-economic conditions in one of Tamil Nadu's most backward regions.

■ Disaster Relief & Rehabilitation

Demonstrating social responsibility, Dr. Sumaya coordinated large-scale disaster relief efforts. In the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, she collaborated with the Emergency Tsunami Relief Project (Government of TN) and local authorities to rebuild affected communities. Notably, the Seethakathi NGO under her guidance facilitated the construction of 2,000 homes (in 2006) for displaced families in Ramanathapuram district. This massive rehabilitation project provided safe housing and restored hope for coastal families, showcasing her ability to mobilize resources and drive community projects during crises.

■ Women's Welfare Organizations

Beyond the college and NGO, she actively leads and contributes to various women's welfare bodies:

- **Honorary Secretary**, Ramnathapuram District Muslim Women Aid Society – Supports women's education, healthcare, and financial aid at the district level.
- **General Secretary**, Federation of Muslim Women Aid Societies of Tamil Nadu – Coordinates initiatives among women's groups statewide, advocating for minority women's rights and empowerment programs.
- **Secretary**, Association of Muslim Professionals (Ramanathapuram Chapter) – Bridges the professional community with social causes, fostering mentorship and development opportunities for youth and women in the region.

Through these roles, Dr. Sumaya has built strong community networks and championed causes like girls' education, adult literacy, self-employment, and healthcare access, making a lasting social impact.

■ Social Impact Philosophy

Dr. Sumaya's guiding principle – "When you educate a man, you change a life; when you educate a woman, you shape a community" – underlies all her community engagement. She has continually integrated this philosophy into her work, ensuring that the college's mission and her NGOs' activities align with broader social development goals (poverty alleviation, gender equity, health and nutrition, sustainable livelihoods). Her blend of academic leadership with grassroots activism has set a benchmark for socially conscious educational leadership.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS (27+ HONORS)

Dr. Sumaya's impactful career has been widely recognized through numerous awards at the state, national, and international levels (over 27 honours), celebrating her excellence in educational leadership, research, and social service. Key awards include:

- **Chief Minister's Best Woman Social Worker Award (2012)** – Prestigious honour conferred by the Tamil Nadu Government, with a gold medal and citation, recognizing her outstanding contribution to women's welfare and community development in the state.
- **National Award of Excellence in Higher Education (2011)** – Awarded by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI, Government of India) for her exceptional service and leadership in the field of minority education and higher learning.
- **Bharat Excellence Award (2023)** – Presented by the Friendship Forum, New Delhi, acknowledging her extraordinary achievements and efforts in promoting educational cooperation and development at a national level.
- **Academic Leadership Award (2023)** – Conferred by the Madurai Management Association (affiliated to AIMA) for distinguished leadership and innovation in higher education management.
- **Pre-Eminent Administrator International Award (2022)** – Given by the Chennai Teachers' Council, recognizing her excellence in academic administration and institutional governance with a global outlook.
- **Moulana Abul Kalam Azad National Education Award (2019)** – Honouring her lifelong outstanding services in the field of education, particularly for minority communities, named after India's first Education Minister.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award in Education (2019)** – Awarded by Radian IAS Academy (Tamil Nadu) for her decades-long dedication and impactful contributions to the education sector.
- **Best Principal Award (2011)** – From the International Institute of Education & Management, New Delhi, for exemplary performance as the head of an academic institution.

Additional honors include the Dr. Radhakrishnan Outstanding Educator Award (2017), Rashtriya Rattan Award (2001) for national service, Innovative Teacher Award – Science (2006), Best Muslim Woman Scientist Award (2004), Presidency Guide Award (1979) from the President of India in her youth, among others. These accolades span over four decades, underscoring her consistent excellence and dedication.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & SERVICE

■ NAAC Peer Team Member (since 2004)

Empanelled as an expert evaluator with the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, Dr. Sumaya has served on accreditation peer review teams across India. She has contributed to quality assessments of numerous colleges, bringing insight from her own experience to help uphold and improve standards in higher education nationwide.

■ University Grants Commission (UGC) Committees

Actively involved in UGC and regulatory bodies' initiatives. She has been a UGC-nominated member on committees for granting Autonomous Status to institutions and has sat on UGC selection panels (e.g., for Centre of Advanced Study promotions and direct faculty recruitment). Her role as a UGC nominee in these evaluations reflects the trust in her academic judgment and integrity at the national level.

■ Academic Councils and Boards

Served as Member of Academic Council/Senate of autonomous institutions, contributing to governance and policy-making in academia. She is the Convener of the Postgraduate Home Science Board at TANSCH (Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education), leading curriculum design and program approvals in Home Science across the state's universities. Additionally, she has been a Board of Studies member for universities (e.g., Alagappa University) and has formulated syllabi for competitive examinations and new academic programs, influencing curriculum standards beyond her own campus.

■ Government Advisory Roles

Appointed to various government boards and committees:

- **District Advisory Committee Member** – Tamil Nadu Food Safety and Drug Administration (Ramanathapuram District), advising on public health nutrition and food safety interventions locally.
- **Member, State Social Welfare Board** (Sexual Harassment Prevention Committee) – Contributed to policy formulation and inquiry processes to ensure safe working/studying environments for women in educational institutions and workplaces.
- **Member, Tamil Nadu Medical Services Recruitment Board** – Participated in selection processes for positions such as Food Safety Officers, ensuring meritorious candidates are chosen for public service roles.
- **Regional Coordinator, MGNCRE (MoE, Govt. of India)** – Represents the Mahatma Gandhi National Council for Rural Education in the region, promoting rural resilience and community engagement in higher education curricula.

■ International & National Conferences

A sought-after speaker and resource person, Dr. Sumaya has delivered invited lectures, keynotes, and panel talks at numerous conferences and seminars. Highlights include addressing the 51st Annual National Conference of Indian Dietetic Association and international forums like a 2013 women's empowerment summit in Hong Kong.

She has presented research in countries such as the USA, Thailand, and Malaysia (often with UGC travel grants), sharing her insights on nutrition, education, and gender issues. Her active participation in conferences and professional networks keeps her at the forefront of academic discourse and builds bridges between TBAK and global educational communities.

Professional Memberships

Engages with professional bodies and networks to stay updated and contribute to her field. She is allied with organizations like the Indian Dietetic Association, and as mentioned, leads the local chapter of the Association of Muslim Professionals. These affiliations enable collaboration, continuous learning, and policy advocacy in areas spanning nutrition, education management, minority education, and women's empowerment.

Dr. Sumaya's profile exemplifies a holistic leader who has excelled as an educator, researcher, administrator, and social change agent. Her extensive experience in academic governance, combined with her research credentials and community outreach, align perfectly with the multifaceted responsibilities of a Vice Chancellor. She brings a proven record of institution-building, a commitment to academic excellence with inclusivity, and a visionary approach to leveraging education for societal betterment.



Place: Kilakarai, Tamil Nadu

Date: 16 May, 2025